

the Borders of New-England, they would be ready to join in the War, whenever I should order them so to do: But those Indians at that Treaty asked the Question, What shall they do now they have taken up the Hatchet, they have no Powder, Ball, nor Cloaths? People that go to War ought to be well provided: Therefore suitable Encouragement must be given, to attach those Indians heartily to our Cause; to which End our Neighbours have furnished you with a notable Precedent as a Reward for their Services.

As it may be uncertain what Numbers of the Militia the Exigency of Affairs may require to be sent to Albany this Winter, it is highly expedient that an ample Quantity of Provisions should be low sent thither at all Events, as the River is open, in order to answer such Services, during the Winter, as those Troops may be sent upon, either for the Defence of that City, or attacking the Enemy elsewhere upon our Frontiers.

Upon looking back into the Proceedings of the Assembler in former Wars, you will find what considerable annual Expence they have cheerfully borne, when, I may say, the Province was in it's Minority with Respect to it's present flourishing Circumstances; and I must leave you to judge what will be expected from you at the present Crisis.

I am sorry I must tell you, I find by the Treasurer, that the present Situation of the publick Funds is such as fall far short of answering the ordinary Services of the Government; Therefore it is necessary you should take timely Measures, not only for supplying the Deficiency, (but as you can have no Expectation of a Suppliment to arise from former Grants) to devise new Methods, which may amply answer the present Exigencies.

G. CLINTON.

BOSTON, November 25:

Application having been made to this Government by Capt. Forest, Commander of his Majesty's Ship Wager, for a Number of Men for the said Ship, a Warrant was granted by his Honour the Lieutenant Governor, and committed to Nathaniel Halsey, Deputy Sheriff, for impressing 15 Men for his Majesty's Service, who were to be delivered on board the said Wager: In the said Warrant, the Officer was directed to take to his Assistance a Number of discreet Men, Inhabitants of this Province, and no others, and was strictly forbid to impress any of the Men that had been in the late Expedition. But notwithstanding these plain Directions, Halsey (knowing he had some dirty Work to do) instead of the Inhabitants of this Province, took several of the Officers and Seamen belonging to the Men of War in the Harbour (armed with Clubs and Cutlasses) and last Wednesday Evening forcibly enter'd the House of Capt. Cowley, lately come in from Sea, where they cursed and swore, and behaved like Fiends of Hell, brandished their Swords, beat and abused Capt. Cowley, and threaten'd Death and Destruction to all that should oppose them, and very ill treated several worthy Gentlemen who were present, and advised them to a better Behaviour; and having in the most rude and barbarous Manner, forced themselves into every Room in the House but one; they seized and carried away five Sailors belonging to Capt. Cowley's Ship, whom they committed to Prison.

After this Adventure, the Miscreants went to the North End of the Town, and entered the House of one Poor where there happened to be three Men belonging to the Sloop formerly commanded by Capt. Downahew, but of late by Capt. Richardson, (in the King's Service) who tho' secured from an Im-

provided, which were, an old Gun without a Lock, and a broken Spit: But Capt. Richardson being apprised of the Affair, went immediately to the House, and by producing his Roll, on which appeared the Names of the three Men in dispute, and other Circumstances, Halsey and his Gang seemed so well satisfied, that they gave their Words they would not meddle with them. Upon this the Men were prevailed on to come down, and delivered their Weapons, (such as they were) to Halsey; and Capt. Richardson seeing Matters accommodated; left the Room, and had but just turn'd his Back, when the Word *Blitz* was given, the Candles put out, and the [Readers, our Language does not afford Words bad enough for the Villains] perfidious and execrable Wretches fell upon the poor unarmed Men with their Cutlasses, and stab'd and hack'd two of them in so terrible and inhuman a Manner, that one of them died the next Day, and the other the Evening following: but the third had the good Fortune to escapeth their Rage, by hiding himself in a Closet. Upon the Cry of Murder, the Assassins took to their Heels, and all but one made their Escape, thro' the Negligence of Halsey, - who could not be prevailed on to stir out of the House, till he was pull'd out by Capt. Richardson, when it was too late to do any Service. However the Capt. followed, seized and secured the boatwain of the Wager, who is now in Goal, but most of the other Murderers were conveyed on board that Ship in Nantasket Road.

On Friday his Honour the Lieutenant Governor, with the Advice of his Majesty's Council, was pleased to issue out a Proclamation for apprehending the said Murderers.

The same Day several of the Justices of the Town met at Faneuil Hall upon this extraordinary Occasion, and after examining Evidences, sent Halsey and some other Persons to Goal.

It was very affecting to the Inhabitants of this Town, to see the Funeral of their deceased Friends on Friday, when they considered how well those brave Men had deserved of their Country, having been in the publick Service the whole Time of the Expedition, in a Vessel manned with as bold and active Fellows as perhaps ever crossed the Seas, and who had looked Death in the Face a thousand times, while engaged with the French and Indian Enemy, and were just returned to reap the small Fruit of their signal Services; for such Men to be suddenly deprived of Life, in so base and cowardly a Manner, in the midst of their Friends, and without Provocation; by Scoundrels, who perhaps never drew a Sword, or fired a Gun against the King's Enemies, tho' they daily eat his Bread, is hard, very hard!

November 28. Last Tuesday died here, after about a Fortnight's Confinement, of a Fever, Capt. William Fletcher, Commander of the Brigantine *Boston Packet*, employed in the Service of this Government. Capt. Fletcher was well esteem'd among us; and by his extraordinary Activity, Courage and good Conduct in the Expedition against *Cape Breton*, in which he had assisted from the first Projection of it, had acquir'd the Character of a brave Officer: As his Death is a great Loss to the public, so it is universally lamented.

WILLIAMSBURG,

Extract of a private Letter from Kingston in Jamaica, dated August 22, 1745.

'We are in a terrible Consternation here, the wild Negroes have risen upon us, and destroy'd Numbers, both white and black. The Horse-Guards, Troopers, Independent Company and Militia are out Night and Day in Pursuit of them. Yesterday they kill'd two Whites and five Negroes that were out after them.'